My Fourth Pick and White Smoke for Thorold

By Nicholas Bozza | Thorold Election Commentary | October 26, 2026

494 body words | Estimated reading time: approximately 3 minutes

Excludes title, headings, cartoon text, notices and sign-off. Cartoon viewing time is additional.

First, my apologies: I was short of time yesterday and left out my fourth council pick, Kieran Daniels. I had other family responsibilities to attend to and shortened the article process to get it published. It was an omission—not a change of heart.

I don't know Kieran as well as my other three picks, and I won't pretend otherwise. But based on his background, knowledge and experience, I believe he deserves an opportunity to contribute to Thorold's rebuilding team. Alongside Ken Steeve, he represents an investment in new voices at the council table. Together, they should help shore up Thorold's defence and bring a strong presence to the goal crease—to keep the puck out of our net.

That completes my four council choices: re-elect Carmen DeRose, re-elect Jim Handley, elect Ken Steeve and elect Kieran Daniels.

Kieran's engineering background, infrastructure experience and service as Vice Chair of Thorold's Committee of Adjustment give me confidence he can bring practical knowledge and informed judgment to our rebuilding team. Good luck, Kieran! See Kieran's "A Lift for City Hall" cartoon below (page 2).

White Smoke for a New Mayor—No More Smoke and Mirrors?

If voters send the UN-FAB FOUR out of office, perhaps we could finally leave the smoke and mirrors behind. That is my hope—not an election result.

At the Vatican, people watch the chimney. Black smoke means no pope has been chosen; the cardinals vote again. White smoke means a new pope. Imagine bringing a little of that theatre to Thorold.

A crowd gathers outside City Hall, eyes fixed on a hastily installed chimney. "White smoke!" someone shouts. "Have we elected a pope?"

"No," comes the reply. "We're hoping for a new mayor. The hat is smaller, but the expectations are enormous."

And as for the outgoing NIGHT-MAYOR: he'll be leaving office with so little transparency, I fear the next mayor might not even be able to find a stapler!

A nervous resident points upward. "What if the smoke is black?" The caretaker sighs. "Before anybody panics, check whether someone's burnt the election-night pizza." See the white-smoke chimney cartoon below (page 3).

The UN-FAB FOUR and a New Career Alignment

And if voters send the UN-FAB FOUR looking for a new line of work, perhaps they could open an alignment shop. Wheel alignments. Brake service. Years of political alignment experience.

Their sales pitch? "We always turn the same way!" The first customer looks worried. "Lovely. But can you make the car go STRAIGHT?"

A second customer asks about the brakes. The four exchange nervous glances. "Brakes? We thought you wanted another four years of acceleration!" See the alignment-shop cartoon below (page 4).

Perhaps the business needs one final service: independent steering. See "Independent steering" in the cartoon below (page 4).

Later tonight, I'll bring you brief breaking-news coverage of the winners and losers. Hopefully, the winners will include the voters—if they have used sound judgment. Coming soon: my post-mortem on the outgoing councillors, with further thoughts on the election and what comes next.

Read, share and spread the word.

Political satire and personal opinion. Cartoon dialogue, smoke scenes and garage are fictional; no election outcome or coordination is asserted.

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ONE EDITION TODAY: The full article and Executive Summary are the same document and the same length. Read either one; there is no need to read both.


ONE OF NICHOLAS BOZZA'S TOP FOUR
ENDORSED COUNCIL CANDIDATES
Registered Third-Party Advertiser — City of Thorold
KIERAN DANIELS
Certified Engineering Technician • 20+ years in engineering consulting
Vice Chair – Thorold Committee of Adjustment
A LIFT FOR CITY HALL!
THOROLD CITY HALL
COOL IDEAS BRIGHTER DAYS
Let's start with the groundwork!
Finally! Espresso that flows, elevators that elevate, and air conditioning that survives a heated debate!
Good Ideas Brew Here
KIERAN DANIELS
STRONG COMMUNITY STRONGER TOMORROW
A HIGHER TOMORROW FOR A BRIGHTER THOROLD
Now that's productive!
Good luck, Kieran!
His engineering background, infrastructure experience and service as Vice Chair of Thorold's Committee of Adjustment give me confidence he can bring practical knowledge and informed judgment to our rebuilding team.
Endorsed by Nicholas Bozza
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Illustrative cartoon • Imagined dialogue, not campaign promises.



Political satire • Imagined scene, not an election result

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ALIGNMENT SHOP
Wheel alignment • Brake service • Independent steering
THE UN-FAB FOUR:
A NEW ALIGNMENT?
An imaginary post-election career fair.
SAME DIRECTION EVERY TIME!
STEADY CARS STRONGER COMMUNITY
We always turn the same way!
Lovely. Can you make it go STRAIGHT?
And who knows how to put the BRAKES on?
Dekker
Sentance
O'Hare
De Divitis
Political satire • No election result or coordination is asserted.
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